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West Point fosters 'small-town' feel

West Point Gardens on the west side of Elgin will include 342 single-family homes and 128 town homes in a neighborhood designed to foster communication, neighborliness and "that spirit of caring that was characteristic of the small towns of the past," said Pat Curran, president of West Point Builders, the developer.

West Point Gardens features 11 professionally decorated model homes with theme gardens. In addition, a selection of homes is available for early delivery. Single-family homes include the Heritage Series, priced from \$324,990 to \$349,990, and the Kingston Series, priced from \$379,990 to \$424,990. The townhouses are priced from \$237,990 to \$299,990. Among buyers' favorite features are:

- Large, deep front porches. Porches are one of the most enduring symbols of a comfortable home. At West Point Gardens, room-sized, covered porches are large enough for conversation groupings of furniture, dining tables and entertaining.

- Architectural designs and styling. The classic warmth and charm of a traditional neighborhood is evident in the use of brick, varied roof lines, gables, and garages hidden in the rear of homes.

The interiors of the nine single-family floor plans and five townhouse plans are light-filled, open and spacious, with an emphasis on informal living areas in some homes while others also include formal living and dining rooms. Both a townhouse and a single-family plan offer a first-floor master bedroom.

- Customized choices. Along with standard amenities, the builder will entertain suggestions on personalizing options.

- Private, enclosed backyard gardens. Yards feature a 6-foot private maintenance-free fence and gate that can be securely locked. Theme gardens are showcased in each of the 11 model homes, and buyers can work with the West Point Builders landscape designer to create a customized garden using one or more of the elements on display.

- Parks and other amenities. Twelve-acre Meier Park with its fountain and ponds is the hub of community sports and leisure activities. The park has tennis and basketball courts, baseball and soccer fields, a tot lot and a gazebo with seating. Sidewalks, jogging paths and hike trails traverse the park and the community so that residents can walk to the park, a future retail convenience center and nearby District 301 schools.

Five townhouse designs are available at West Point Gardens, offering freedom from exterior maintenance. The plans range in size from 1,278 to 1,790 square feet with two or three bedrooms, 1½ to 2½ baths, lofts, family rooms per plan, nine-foot first-floor ceilings, full basements, brick exteriors, two-car garages and private enclosed gardens.

The Heritage Series of single-family homes features four floor plans, varying in size from 1,841 to 2,307 square feet and including three bedrooms, 2½ baths, basements, private enclosed gardens and two- or three-car attached garages grouped around motor courts.

West Point Gardens is at the southwest corner of Route 20 and Nesler Street, one mile west of Randall Road. Sales center hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily.

Call (847) 608-1000 or visit westpointgardens.com.